

**Weekly Pew Sheet for the benefice of
Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe**



Sunday 7th December 2025 - Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome to our benefice! If you are visiting one of our churches for the first time, please introduce yourself to us!

Contact information

Team Rector	Rev'd Chris Bradish (day off Friday) Tel: 07985 427930 chris.bradish@cofeheartofwight.org
Team Vicar	Rev'd Emma Cooksey (day off Saturday) Tel: 01983 653166 emma.cooksey@cofeheartofwight.org
Team Vicar	Rev'd Steve Sutcliffe (day off Monday) Tel: 01983 520884 or 07563 247480 steve.sutcliffe@cofeheartofwight.org
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St Mary's, Carisbrooke

Church Warden - Peter Ednay; tel. no: 07919 096838
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Safeguarding Officer - Ann Smout; tel. no: 01983 527477

St Olave's, Gatcombe

PCC Secretary - Jill Webster; jill.webster@outlook.com;
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St John's, Newport

Church Warden - Marian Brett-Hill; tel. no: 07717 882148
Church Warden - Andy Rolf; tel. no: 07732 781155
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Newport Minster

Church Warden & Safeguarding Officer - Janet Holliday;
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Church Warden - Debbie Cook; tel. no: 07541 472964

Advent Wreath Prayer: Lord Jesus, light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmas and show all the world God's love. **Amen.**

Collect; Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen.**

FIRST READING; Romans 15: 4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING; Matthew 3: 1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’ ”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

“I baptise you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ

Post communion prayer; Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

What's on in our parish?

Informal Evening Service: We are having a contemporary Christmas Carol Service this Sunday 7th December at 6.30pm. Come early to enjoy mince pies and non-alcoholic mulled wine and community before we begin. All are welcome – we'd love to see you there!

Morning Prayer at The Minster: Monday-Friday at 8.30am. All welcome.

The Minster Knitters group: Will be meeting every Monday, 11am-12.30pm in the Minster Café. All are welcome to come along for a knit/crochet and a natter with Ruth.

Parson's Pantry: Wednesday mornings, 10-12 noon in Carisbrooke Church Hall. Enjoy a chat over tea, coffee and cake. All welcome.

St. John's Midweek Service: Takes place on Wednesday at 11am. This week the service is the Carol Service.

St. John's Lunch Club: Every Wed, 11.45am-1pm in St John's Church Hall. £4.50 per person. To book a place, please contact Di Hayman on 07901 553674.

Minster Memory Café: Winter Timetable is now out and can be found at the back of church for anyone who might enjoy coming along or wanting to find out more.

Food Bank: At St. John's Church Hall from 2-4pm every Wed and Fri afternoon.

Singing for Fun: In the Parish Centre, Wednesday evening at 7pm. All welcome.

Minster Volunteers: We need your help! We have a lot of events and services coming up in Newport Minster over the Christmas period and we need a few more helpers to help welcome guests. Would you be able to volunteer and spare a few hours over the Christmas period to help? If so please speak to a member of the clergy, email cec@cofeheartofwight.org or phone 01983 559257.

The Royal Foundation Christmas Carol Service: Will be happening on Friday 12th December at 6pm in Newport Minster. This will be a fun-filled Carol service that we will be hosting on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant. All welcome to come along.

Christmas service leaflets: Are now available at the back of church - please do take one for yourself and also some to invite friends and family. It would be lovely to see our churches full over the Christmas season.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS): Is a simple and secure way for churches to receive gifts by Direct Debit, credit and debit cards, Apple and Google Pay. Your generosity enriches the life of our church in our community - so thank you for all that you can donate. Donations can be made through PGS for both regular and one-off donations. With your permission, we are also able to reclaim the Gift Aid for our church. If you would like to donate via PGS please speak to a church warden or your PGS administrator.